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13th October, 1960COCOM Document 4181 BCOORDINATING COMMITTEERECORD OF DISCUSSIONONFRENCH PROPOSAL TO EXPORT KLYSTRON AND MAGNETRON TUBES TO POLAND3rd and 10th October, 1960

Present: Belgium (Luxembourg), France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States.

Reference: COCOM Document 4123.

1. The CHAIRMAN drew the attention of Delegates to the French proposal concerning the export to Poland of klystron tubes and magnetron tubes covered by Item 1558 and valued at \$ 6,600 (COCOM Document 4123). He invited Delegates to state their Governments' views on this proposal.
2. The UNITED KINGDOM Delegate expressed regret for his inability to give his authorities' views and said he hoped to be in a position to communicate them to the French Delegation and to the Secretariat in the course of the current week.
3. The UNITED STATES Delegate stated that his Government's technical experts believed that these tubes were highly strategic and could be readily diverted to military purposes. In order to assess the reasonableness of this export in terms of the stated end-use under the terms of the special Polish policy, the United States technical experts would need specific information concerning the equipments which the klystrons were to service and the replacement requirements of these equipments. Therefore the United States experts in Washington had requested (a) detailed descriptions of the equipments to be serviced and (b) the number of the equipments involved.
4. With regard to the French Delegation's statement that the Tunggram factory in Budapest manufactured items similar to those whose export was proposed, the Delegate stated that information available to the United States authorities indicated that while this factory did produce limited quantities of klystrons and magnetrons, none of these were comparable to the items currently under discussion. The United States authorities also understood that under the terms of Soviet Bloc efforts to augment the economic integration of Eastern Europe through the Council on Mutual Economic Assistance (C.E.M.A.), Poland had assignments in both the radar and the microwave relay areas, and was finding difficulty in securing adequate tubes for the equipment which was being produced and developed.
5. The FRENCH Delegate stated that, according to information gathered recently by the competent French departments, the tubes manufactured by the Tunggram factory in Budapest were also produced by the RFT Company at Erfurt in the Soviet Zone of Germany. They were low-power tubes intended for the same uses as those now proposed for export. He added that a given type of klystron or magnetron was manufactured for a clearly determined frequency band; thus tubes of an identical type could be found in several versions. Referring to the klystrons, the Delegate stated that they were intended for relays which had been supplied as minor component parts for television equipment delivered to Poland in 1951, 1952 and 1953. Further research by the French authorities had revealed that the relays for which the klystrons were intended had been supplied by the French firm CSF and were small television relays of very low power (1 watt) and very short range, which, to the French Delegation's knowledge, could only be used for the transmission of television pictures. In reply to the second question put by the United States Delegate, the French Delegate stated that the number of equipments to be serviced was six, and that reasonable requirements for each equipment would consist of one tube in use and one in reserve.

CONFIDENTIAL

- 2 -

COCOM Document 4181 B

6. Referring to the magnetrons, the Delegate stated that these were intended for radar equipment constructed in Poland and installed on board vessels supplied by the United Kingdom. Fifty radar sets of this type, which Poland had exhibited at the Poznan Fair, were at present in service on board vessels of the Polish merchant fleet. A logical provision in that case was one tube in use and one in reserve per set.
7. A further question, as to the location of the television relays for which the klytrons were intended, having been put by both the United Kingdom and the United States Delegates, and the latter having stressed its importance in estimating the risks of diversion to strategic ends, the FRENCH Delegate said that his authorities had been unable to obtain more exact information on this point. He reminded the Committee that the amount involved in this export was small, and that the request, which had been submitted under the special policy applied to Poland, was accompanied by the usual assurances against reexport.
8. The UNITED KINGDOM and UNITED STATES Delegates thanked the French Delegation for the additional technical information just provided.
9. The ITALIAN Delegate thanked the French Delegation for this information, which confirmed the reasoning followed by the Italian authorities in raising no objection to the French proposal, in view of the country of destination on the one hand, and, on the other hand, of the fact that no new technique was embodied in the equipment involved.
10. The GERMAN Delegate stated that if the French authorities were convinced that the delivery to Poland of the tubes concerned would not involve any strategic risk or reveal advanced technique, the German authorities would not raise any objection to the proposal.
11. The BELGIAN, JAPANESE and NETHERLANDS Delegates stated that their authorities raised no objection to the proposed export.
12. The FRENCH Delegate thanked his colleagues for their favourable replies and expressed the hope that answers would shortly be forthcoming from the United Kingdom and United States Delegations.
13. On the 10th October, the UNITED KINGDOM Delegate stated that his authorities were continuing their study of the French request and had not been able to give him their final reply. The Delegate stated that his Government was still concerned by the lack of precise information as to the location of the relays for which the klystrons were intended; moreover, the pamphlet supplied by the French Delegation had not convinced the United Kingdom authorities of the exclusively civilian nature of the tubes concerned.
14. The FRENCH Delegate pointed out that, as the United Kingdom authorities had had to deal with applications involving similar equipment, they were doubtless aware of the fact that Poland's orders were placed through a central purchasing office in Warsaw and that these tubes, being intended for relays of small dimensions, were essentially mobile; consequently, while assurances against reexport could be obtained, it was extremely difficult to gather specific information as to the location of the equipments for which they were intended. The Delegate laid stress moreover on the civilian use which he had indicated at the previous meeting (see paragraph 5 of the present document).

CONFIDENTIAL